



SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

PO Box 8119 San Luis Obispo, CA 93403-8119
July, 2015

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Member at Large*

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District 3 Representative*

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*Marilyn Hamilton
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*Myra Lathrop
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*Roger Randall
Alternate Member at Large*

*Leonard Milstein
Alternate Member at Large*

*Peta Rimington
Alternate Member at Large*

*SLO County District Attorney
Representative*

*SLO County Mental Health
Representative*

*SLO County Social Services
Representative*

To: San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors

From: Kathleen Bellefontaine, Chairperson
SLO County Commission on Aging

Projected Goals and Priority Senior Issues for 2015-2016

Agreed upon by the membership of the SLO County Commission on Aging

Goals:

- 1) Collect information from Seniors about their challenges and explore ideas for solutions.
- 2) Continue to provide relevant and timely information to the Board of Supervisors and to the Public

Priority Senior Issues:

- 1) Explore New Ideas & Update Past Ideas for Affordable Senior housing
- 2) Update on Mental Health Services for the Aging
- 3) Disaster Preparedness for Seniors
- 4) Look Into Outreach for those who may feel Isolated & Lonely
- 5) Look Into Care Management provided by Insurance Companies
- 6) Investigate Availability of Emergency Alert Systems

PROJECTED GOALS AND PLAN OF ACTION for 2015-16

Addendum: Although the most current update to this information is March 21, 2014 these plans will be continued in fiscal year 2015-16.

| COA GOALS | PLAN/ACTION |
|--|---|
| 1) Continue to collect information from Seniors about issues of concern to Older Adults and their solutions | <p>PLAN: Collect information about Senior concerns through direct contact</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Speaker Bureau venues where members discuss purpose of COA at community group meetings and request input on senior concerns. ◆ Members share issues at Commission meetings derived from <u>direct contact</u> with peers. ◆ COA Supervisor Reps & members coordinate efforts to become more acquainted with Senior Center directors and their needs. |
| | <p>PLAN: Seek information already gathered by others</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Create ad-hoc committee to review and incorporate Survey results collected by other agencies in the Community in advance of April, 2015 meeting. |
| | <p>PLAN: Increase & maintain COA visibility.</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Increase distribution of Rack Cards. ◆ Continue to publicize COA as platform for Senior input through electronic and print media and at Board of Supervisor meetings. ◆ Advertise meeting on the KCBX on-line Event calendar ◆ Revisit Hearing Advocacy outreach |
| 2) Continue to provide relevant and timely information to Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Public | <p>PLAN: Define best practices for communication with BOS</p> <p>ACTION:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ District Representatives will continue to find unique ways to give input to BOS in order to pinpoint priority issues and/or solutions that COA discovers through Outreach. ◆ Commissioners will demonstrate support on current or pending legislation intended to improve quality of life for Seniors. ◆ District Reps communicate with their Supervisor prior to COA advocating at a Board Meeting. |

At the April COA meeting, members discussed and defined the needs that their peers are most concerned about. Ranking sheets with those topics were sent out to the members and returned to the Chair. The data from those sheets has been totaled. Results are as shown.

| Priority THEMES | Topics to Focus on | | Ranking Order | Top 5 |
|--------------------------------------|---|--|---------------|-------|
| Senior Housing | EXPLORE NEW IDEAS & UPDATE PAST IDEAS FOR AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING | | 81 | 1 |
| Isolation & Depression | UPDATE ON MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AGING | | 75 | 2 |
| Safety for Seniors | DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FOR SENIORS | | 74 | 3 |
| Isolation & Depression | LOOK INTO OUTREACH FOR THOSE WHO MAY FEEL ISOLATED & LONELY | | 74 | 4 |
| Affordable Services for independence | LOOK INTO CARE MGMT PROVIDED BY INSURANCE COMPANIES | | 73 | 5 |
| Safety for Seniors | INVESTIGATE AVAILABILITY OF EMERGENCY ALERT SYSTEMS | | 69 | |
| Affordable Services for independence | INVESTIGATE CURRENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR NON-DRIVING SENIORS | | 65 | |
| Senior Housing | INVESTIGATE UNIVERSAL DESIGN ELEMENTS IN NEW HOUSING DEVELOPMENTS | | 64 | |
| Safety for Seniors | FIND OUT ABOUT THE PURPOSE & NEED FOR PUBLIC GUARDIANS & CONSERVATORS | | 64 | |
| Isolation & Depression | ADDRESS ALCOHOL & DRUG ADDICTION IN THE SENIOR POPULATION | | 55 | |
| Senior Housing | INVESTIGATE ZONING ISSUES AS THEY CURRENTLY INFLUENCE SENIOR HOUSING | | 51 | |
| Isolation & Depression | EXPLORE THE LACK OF EMERITUS PROGRAMS AT LOCAL COLLEGES | | 33 | |

First choice for COA presentations 2015-16 will be based on the top 5 ranked topics but the other topics can be addressed when there is new and timely information available.

Based on Member Ranking Results @ 5-15-2015 by 15 members & 3 alternates.

Current membership is comprised of 16 (of 17) full members; 3 alternates